

The Daily Gazetteer.

Nov. 1145

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21. 1739.

1143.



It is with great Satisfaction I give the following Letter to the Publick, tho' it does no great Honour to myself. It is to me the greatest Pleasure to perceive, that *Moral Essays* are well receiv'd, that Men are content, not only to read, but to consider and re-consider them, to draw out their own Thoughts on Paper, and thereby facilitate the Examination of Points of great Importance to the right Judging and Well-being of Men. The Subject of my Paper of November the 17th might justly be reckon'd of this Number; and therefore, tho' I am pleas'd, I am not surpris'd at all at the Pains my Correspondent has taken upon it. I persuade myself, that the Publick will also receive his Observations kindly; and I heartily wish that I may have frequent Opportunities of shewing my Impartiality by publishing such Pieces.

TO RALPH FREEMAN, Esq;

SIR,

I Doubt not in the least, but that when you apply yourself to write upon either Religious or Moral Subjects, your Intentions are good; to confirm the Well-meaning, to inform the Ignorant, and to convince the Mistaken. But notwithstanding all this, as none are infallible in their Judgments, so I take the Liberty to acquaint you, (tho' I may herein also be mistaken) that I cannot but differ from you in some few Particulars in your *Daily Gazetteer* of Nov. 17. 1738. on the Subject of *Suicide*.

I shall not enter into the Dispute concerning your Notions about Despair, from whence it proceeds, or whether excusable or bearable, or not; whether with respect to this Life, or that hereafter; barely such, your Sentiments would not have occasion'd you the Trouble of this. But when you proceed to vindicate the usual Verdicts of Inquests, in making those Lunatics who have laid violent Hands upon themselves; and thereupon declare, as your Judgment, that there cannot be any thing more equitable than the bringing in such a Verdict, I beg leave to differ from you on this Occasion. I grant, that Despair, as you say, is throwing away Reason and Hope; but then this is voluntary and wilful, an Act of a depraved or mistaken Judgment, not of a Person absolutely depriv'd of his Reason and Judgment. We have been well assur'd of Persons, who, at the same time that they were resolv'd to lay violent Hands upon themselves, have left behind them what may be called their Wills, or some Writing for the ordering their Families, or for the Disposal of their Effects; which Writings have been drawn with the greatest Prudence and Art, plainly shewing the Rectitude of their Judgments and Reason as to those Particulars, at the same time still purposing the Act of Self-murder. We have likewise known others who would discourse rationally and sensibly on other Subjects, provided you keep off from that of their Melancholy. Now, if People be mistaken in their Judgments in one Point, yet are right in many, if not most others, must they therefore be accounted Lunatick? this sure must be wrong. I am sensible it is answer'd in this Case, that considering the Danger in the future State, and the Unnaturalness of Self-murder, none could be guilty of such an Action, under such Persuasions, and at the same time be, as is usually said, in their Senses; but this, I think, cannot be admitted of. May it not rather be thought of them, that they are not thoroughly persuaded of the Reality or of the Certainty of Hell-Torments, or that those are threaten'd to be the Reward of such an Action, or that, through the infinite Goodness and Mercy of God, they may escape them? Or, as you say, may they not also be mistaken, in alledging, that their present Sufferings or Uneasiness of Mind are not bearable? Must or can they be accounted Lunatick, because they are so mistaken in their Judgments, or do not apply themselves thoroughly to consider as they ought? Do we not daily see or hear of Deists, Scepticks, Libertines and the like, who live continually in

Contempt of God's Laws; who act against their Reason, Judgments and Consciences, if attended to; who would take it very ill to be therefore accounted Lunatics or Mad-men? Nay, who are not sentenc'd by our Laws as such, nor so esteem'd in the general Opinion of Mankind? And if you impartially re-consider such like Arguments, I am persuas'd such Persons will be accounted even by yourself.

THE Reason why I take the Liberty of thus freely giving you my Opinion on this Subject, is, the Harm which I fear your Arguments (made publick to the World in your Paper above) may do to such Persons so troubled in Mind, by encouraging them to become guilty of so dreadful a Sin as Self-murder; in that they therein will be accounted Lunatics, and so not answerable for the Action. I do not pretend to arraign the Publick, and call in question the Equity or Prudence of our Government as to our Laws on this Occasion; nor altogether to condemn the Jury who submit themselves to the Directions of the Coroners as to the Sense or Intention of the Laws in these Cases, who ought better to understand the Sense and Intention of them; yet cannot but, in my Opinion, blame those Coroners, who, against Reason and common Sense, thus run on in that manner, in giving such Instructions to their Juries, and consequently lead them into those dangerous Mistakes. That it is the Intention of our Law-Makers that Self-murder should have all the Discouragement that they could give, I think may be presumed from the severe Penalties which they have appointed thereupon: It is therefore the Practice of these Coroners which, in my Opinion, ought to be consider'd; and, if faulty, to be regulated. And if what I have here but barely hinted to you may give you Occasion to alter your Opinion, I shall leave it to yourself to do what you shall think fit to put a Stop to the Mischief which such a Mistake, so strenuously maintain'd by you, may do to the World.

I am, SIR,

Jan. 9. 1738-9.

Your Servant,

A. P.

As I have now done Justice to my Correspondent, I hope I may be spared a small Portion of the Reader's Time to vindicate myself. In my Paper on *Suicide*, immediately after declaring that the usual Verdict of the Coroners's Inquest seem'd to me reasonable, I made this Distinction: 'My System therefore is, that such Acts of *Suicide* as are committed thro' Despair, are Acts of Lunacy: But then I say, that this Despair is no just Excuse, because I shall hereafter prove Despair itself is inexcusable. As to such Acts of *Suicide* as are committed from an heretical Disposition of leaving a firebrand World, and throwing away a Life, for which one has no longer any Relië, I cannot think this an Act of Lunacy, but rather of Impiety or Rebellion against the Almighty Creator and All-wise Ruler of the Universe.' It is most evident, that, when I wrote this, I intended to obviate the Gentleman's Objection, and to prevent, as far as in me lay, any Mistake as to my own Sentiments. When an Act of *Suicide* was preceded by evident Despair, then I thought it right to consider it as an Act of Lunacy; when it was preceded by Acts of another Kind, I look'd upon it to be a Violation of our Laws, and an Overt Act of Rebellion against God. This, if I understand him right, is also my Correspondent's Opinion; and, after he has read this, I do not doubt but he will own we think alike.

THE great Point at which we both aim is, the discouraging of this detestable Action. The Design of my Paper of the 17th of November was, to combat the first Stirrings in the human Mind, of that melancholy Disposition which usually terminates in the Species of Madness which hurries People to *Suicide*. I do confess, that I do really look upon these People as Objects much more worthy of Compassion than those of whom my Correspondent speaks; I mean rational Self-murderers, Men of sublime Wit, and superior Understanding, Men of capacious Minds, who despise the narrow Notions of Christians, and, instead of fixing their Belief to our short Creeds, swallow all the Absurdities in Nature; take it for granted, that all Things were at first made, and are still disposed by

Chance, tho' a Man of plain Sense can demonstrate, that all Chance is Fiction; that it is a Term invented by the Schoollands among the Atheists to signify nothing; and that those who use it have seldom or never consider'd its Meaning. To such great Wits as those I own I did not apply myself in that Paper; but, perhaps, when I have more thoroughly considered the Matter, I may be tempted to write a third Paper upon this Subject. Indeed I had done it long ago, but that I have observed that these People will never listen to Reason; they know their Tenets to be indefensible, and therefore, whenever you meddle with them, they speak ever so tenderly, and express ever so much Concern for them, they either treat you with gross Raillery, or with downright Ill Language. On this Account, therefore, I have been silent; for as I am already the But of the Malecontents, I do not care to expose myself to the Free-Thinkers: That would be to get between two Fires, with this additional Misfortune, that neither are fair Enemies.

As to the repressing this Evil by Laws, I confess I know not what to say to it. The Penalties cannot reach the Offender; and, consequently, they fall only upon the Innocent. In Flanders, where there are very severe Laws on this Head, it has been known, that a Lady of high Quality, and of a large Fortune, hath remained unmarried and unsought for, merely because her Parent was guilty of *Suicide*, which there covers a whole Family with Infamy. Is not this punishing the Children? And, which is worse, punishing the Innocent? But, it may be said, this answers the End; it prevents frequent Acts of *Suicide*; it restrains such as would be no other way restrained; and, therefore, tho' it produces some Inconveniences, they must be borne with. I must own there is Weight in this; but, I must at the same time say, that I do not know how much. The Assertion, that this prevents *Suicide*, is a Point that stands in need of Proof; and, therefore, we can admit it no farther than it is supported by Evidence: But as to the Inconvenience, it stands in need of no Proof, and it is visible. All I mention this for, is to shew the Caution with which we ought to proceed in Cases of this Nature. There is certainly no Crime more unjustifiable than *Suicide*; let it therefore be punished severely, but punished with Justice.

My Correspondent seems to intimate, that there is already too great Tenderness shewn by Coroners and Juries, and that what I have written, tends to increase this undue Lenity: But, I hope not; I am sure I did not intend it; for I profess it to be my sincere Desire to see all our Laws thoroughly and conscientiously executed. What I advanced was, that there is a real Distinction between an Act of *Suicide* proceeding from Despair, and an Act of *Suicide* grounded upon irreligious Presumption. I did indeed say, that Verdicts of Lunacy were justifiable; but then I meant no more than that they were justifiable when according to Evidence. It is by that, and that alone, that this and all other Inquests ought to be guided; and if there be, as I hope there is not, any other Method of conducting them, that I absolutely disapprove, because it is illegal, unjust, and a most flagrant Breach of the Law of Nature, as well as of the Laws of God and this Kingdom. Perhaps there might be a Method found out to strengthen the Laws relating to this Crime, and to make the Coroners's Inquisition more useful. Indeed, as things stand at present, his Verdict is not final. The Law of England has provided that the Subject shall never be injured without Remedy; and the Remedy in this Case is so well known, that I need not point it out. However, it might be better if Things were more conveniently regulated. But this I leave to those who are better skilled in the Laws, and who have a better Title than I to offer such Emendations. It is certainly a very nice Point, and therefore I carefully declined it in my former Paper, having never had any Ambition to set up for a Lawgiver, or to take upon me to criticize, what, as a Member of Society, ought to be to me the Rules of my Obedience.

THE Case was quite otherwise with respect to the Light in which I considered that Subject. I distinguish between lesser and greater Criminals; between such as offend through Passion, and such as did it through a malicious perverting of their Reason. I looked upon the former as Persons truly worthy of

Pity;

Pity; and I afforded them the largest Portion of mine, by attempting their Cure. How far I have succeeded I cannot know; but the Rectitude of my Intention is not the less, or the less known. If my Letter has done no other Good, it hath induced a very worthy and intelligent Person to consider the same Subject; it hath given me an Opportunity of publishing his Sentiments, and of re-considering my own. Things of this Sort may do much Good, and never can do any Harm. They have a natural Tendency to open and enlarge the Minds of Men; to engage them to exercise their rational Faculties; to bring curious and useful Subjects to the Test; to revive old Truths; to discover Mistakes sanctified by vulgar Consent; and, in fine, set Things in their true Light: On the other hand, they can never Influence those who are engaged in them against each other; they can never create any Disturbance, publick or private; they can never put People upon despising the Government, or on breaking the Laws; and, therefore, they are fit Subjects for this Paper, in which Men write to do other Men Good, and not to sour the Tempers of the King's Subjects, either against his Administration, or each other. This good Purpose hath indeed stir'd them up many Enemies; and, it is to be hoped, hath not gain'd them fewer Friends. One Misfortune indeed must and will attend them; that their Friends cannot be so well known as their Enemies; because the former are Men of quiet and peaceable Principles; the latter, full of all the Fury of Faction, prone alike to publish their Malice, and to carry it as far as it will go. But this Misfortune they have in common with all the Friends of Religion, Virtue, and Government, in all Ages; and therefore they have no Reason to repine.

R. FREEMAN.

From the London Gazette.
Paris, Feb. 25. N. S.

LAST Sunday the most Christian King declar'd publicly, coming out from Council, that a Marriage between Madame de France, his eldest Daughter, and Don Philip, Infante of Spain, was agreed upon.

HOME PORTS.

Portsmouth, Feb. 19. Yesterday came in the Friends Desire, Vinor, from Arundell, with Wheat for Cork; the Robert and Sisson, Selwood, from Amsterdam for St. Sebastian's; the Lovely Betty, Wane, from the Havana; the Providence, Gattrel, from London, with Wheat for Rouen. This Day came in the Hardwick, Offering, from London for Lisbon.

Deal, Feb. 19. Wind S. W. All the outward bound remain, with the Warwick, Shuter; the Grantham, Hale; the Somerset, Holmes; and the Normanton, Kemeys, for East India; the Prince of Asturias, Surcliffe, for the Cape de Verd Islands; the Charming Molly, Lyon, for Lisbon; the Scipio, Jones, for Cadiz. Put back the Elizabeth, Pinfold, for —. Arrived the George, Prideaux, from Alicante for Ostend.

Arrived at several Ports.

The Kezia, Gerry, from Naples at Dover for Ostend.

The —, Lovell, from the Streights at Dover, for Amsterdam.

The William and Elizabeth, Norris, from Antigua at Cork.

The Samuel, Percy, from Carolina and Cowes at Rotterdam.

L O N D O N.

Days appointed for the following Circuits in Wales in the Lent Assizes.

Hon. John Trevor, Esq; Henry Beeston.

Caermarthen, Saturday April 21, at Caermarthen.

Pembroke, Friday 27, at Haverford West.

Cardigan, Thursday May 3, at Cardigan.

Richard Carter, Esq; Henry Proctor, Esq;

Glamorgan, Saturday April 6, at Cardiff.

Brecknock, Friday 13, at Breckon.

Radnor, Thursday 19, at Presteign.

Last Saturday died at his House at Murcot, in the County of Warwick, Isaac Godfrey, Esq; a Gentleman possessed of a large Estate, and one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County.

Last Sunday Capt. Broome, belonging to the Royal Navy, going from Gravesend to Rochester, was attacked and robbed by two Highwaymen of above 40 l. in Money.

Yesterday between Six and Seven o'Clock in the Morning, several Coaches, Waggon and Horsemen were robb'd by two Highwaymen on Turnham-Green; and about Eight the same Morning a Coach and Four was robb'd by the said Highwaymen between Hounslow Heath and Colebrook, who took from them a considerable Booty.

To-morrow being the Birth-Day of her Royal Highness the Princess Mary, who then enters into the sixteenth Year of her Age, his Majesty will receive the Compliments of the Nobility and Gentry on that Occasion.

Yesterday Mr. Doddsley, the Publisher of a Satire called *Manners*, was discharged out of Custody.

High Water this Day } Morning	Evening
at London Bridge. } 08 43	09 25

Bank Stock 144 7-8ths. India 171 1-half. South Sea 100 3-4ths. Old Annuity 113. New ditto 110 3-8ths. Three per Cent. 105 1-8th. Seven per Cent. Loan 109 1-half. Five per Cent. ditto 93 1-8th. Royal Assurance 105. London Assurance 13 5-8ths, 3-4ths. African 13 1-half. India Bonds 6 l. 15 s. to 16 s. Prem. South Sea ditto, 2 l. 12 s. Premium. Bank Circulation, 2 l. 2 s. 6 d. Premium. Salt Talties 1-half to 2 Premium. English Copper 3 l. 5 s. Welsh ditto, 15 s. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 6 3-4ths per Cent. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto, 3-4ths per Cent. Premium. Million Bank 122 1-half.

Excise-Office, London, 16 Feb. 1738.

By Order of the Honourable the Commissioners of Excise.

ON Thursday the 22d of this Inst. February will be expos'd to Sale, in their Court Room in the Old Jewry, at three of the Clock in the Afternoon, several Parcels of condemn'd Bobea and Green Tea, Coffee, Chocolate, Arrack, Rum, Brandy, Geneva, and other Spirituous Liquors, Soap, Candles, Starch and Hair Powder; which may be view'd on the Tuesday and Wednesday preceding the Day of Sale, at the Excise-Office, and at the Warehouses near the Custom House, from Nine till Twelve in the Morning, and from Two till Five in the Afternoon, and on the Day of Sale from Nine till Twelve in the Forenoon. Printed Allotments of the Particulars will be deliver'd at the said Office on Monday Morning.

This Day is Published,
[Price SIX-PENCE]

With a Red Title and Frontispiece. As it was acted last Night, By Command of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of WALES.

THE FAIR QUAKER OF DEAL:
Or, The Humours of the Navy. A Comedy.

Printed for J. Osborn, at the Golden-Ball in Pater-noster-Row.

Where may be had the following Plays, with Red Titles and Frontispieces, at 6d. each, viz.

Bold Stroke for a Wife.	Chances
Revenge	Mistake
Jane Shore	Calbion Queens
Jane Gray	Anna Bullen
Rover	Fair Penitent
Anatomist	Richard the Third
Artful Husband	What-d'ye-call-it
Wife to be Let	Beaux Stratagem
False Friend	Recruiting Officer
Love for Love	Basset Table
Caius Marius	Artifice
Fond Husband	Perjur'd Husband
Ambitious Step Mother	Ignoramus
Don Sebastian	Oedipus
Relapse	Rehearsal
Provok'd Wife	Country House
Esop	Country Wife
George Barnwell	Country Wit
Cyrus the Great	Gentleman Dancing Master
Wit of a Woman.	Plain Dealer
Lying Lovers	Love in a Wood

With great Variety more.

This Day is Publish'd,
[Price 1 s. 6 d.]

[Being the Ninth Night of Acting]

MUSTAPHA. A TRAGEDY.

Acted at the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, by his Majesty's Servants.

Printed for A. MILLAR, over-against St. Clement's Church in the Strand.

Where may be had, written by the same Author
EURYDICE. A TRAGEDY. Acted at the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane.

A new Edition of the Works of Mr. Thomson, in 2 Vols. Octavo. Price 10 s. bound.

N. B. The 2d Volume may be had alone, Price 5 s. bound, to compleat Gentlemen's Sets who have bought the Seasons, &c. being the First Volume.

This Day is published,
[Price SIX-PENCE]

THE HISTORY of the LIFE and

DEATH of Sultan SOLYMAN, the Magnificent Emperor of the Turks, and of his Son MUSTAPHA. Inscrib'd to the Spectators of MUSTAPHA, a Tragedy. Acted at the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane. With a Geographical Description of the Progress of the Emperor SOLYMAN's Armies in Hungary, Germany, and several other Parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa.

Printed for T. COOPER, at the Globe in Pater-noster-Row.

This Day is publish'd,

(Price bound Four Shillings)

A Practical Treatise on Painful Distempers, with some effectual Methods of curing them, exemplified in a great Variety of suitable Histories.

By THEOPHILUS LOBB, M. D. & F. R. S.

In this Treatise, Pains of the Head, Teeth, Eyes, Heart, Breast, Sides, Back, Stomach, and Bowels: Likewise of the Stone, Strangury, After-Pains, Piles, Cramp, Rheumatism, and Gout, &c. are particularly considered and exemplified. Printed for James Buckland, at the Buck in Pater-noster-Row.

Published lately by the same Author,

A Treatise of the Small Pox, recommended by the Learned Dr. Borehaave, and two Books on Fevers.

This Day is published,

Beautifully printed in one large Volume in Folio.

THE RIGHTS of WAR and PEACE.

In Three Books. Wherein are explained the Law of NATURE and NATIONS, and the principal Points relating to GOVERNMENT. Written in Latin by the Learned

HUGO GROTIIUS.

And translated into English.

To which are added all the large NOTES of Mr. J. BARBEYRAC, Professor of Law at Groningen, and Member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin.

Printed for W. Innys and R. Manby, at the West End of St. Paul's; J. and P. Knapton in Ludgate-street; D. Browne without Temple-Bar; T. Osborne in Gray's-Inn, and E. Wickstead in Newgate-street.

An Infallible CURE

For Barrenness in Women, and Impotency in Men, By Superlative ENLIVENING DROPS;

Which in a few Days render both Sexes Fertile in a most wonderful Manner.

Hundreds of Ladies who were deem'd

incapable Barren, and very many who thought themselves too old to bear Children, have immediately conceived after taking three or four Doses of them only; and vast Numbers of GENTLEMEN by taking them, have presently become capable of propagating their Species, who before, thro' either Imbecility or Age, imagin'd it impossible.

They almost instantly renovate the vital Ferment of the Blood and Juices, rectify the languid State of all the Fluids, rouse, fortify, and increase the Spirits, invigorate the Nerves, restore juvenile Warmth, and cause a sparkling Gladness and ardent Courage to flow in the Heart, and expand itself thro' the whole human System, so as sensibly to enliven and invigorate all the animal Faculties, and corroborate or strengthen the whole Body, as well as the Power appropriated to Generation, and do infallibly cure Barrenness in one Sex, and Impotency in the other, from what Causesoever proceeding, as Thousands have experienced.

They are also pleasant to take, are Cordial to the Stomach, create an Appetite, and procure a good Digestion, beyond any thing known in the World. And are to be had only at Mr. RADFORD's Toy-Shop, at the Rose and Crown against St. Clement's Church-Yard, in the Strand, Price 3 s. the Bottle, with Directions.

The so-much Fam'd HYPO-DROPS.

Which in a few Days infallibly cure

HYPOCHONDRIACK MELANCHOLY in Men, and the VAPOURS in WOMEN, so as never to return again, be they ever so severe, or of many Years standing, and even after all other Remedies have prov'd ineffectual: and that by immediately striking at the very Root or true Cause, as well as remedying the Effects of those perplexing Maladies and all their Variety of Symptoms, by which they mimic, by Turns, almost all the Diseases poor Mortals are afflicted with, and have their Rise from a depraved Appetite, vicious Ferment in the Stomach, and Indigestion of Food, whence proceed Crudities and flatulent or windy Disorders in the first Passages, sour Belchings, Cholick, Uneasiness in the Bowels, and ill Fumes, which offend the Nerves, and, by Consent of Parts, affect the Head, and produce sometimes Giddiness, Dimness of Sight, confused Thoughts, pertinacious Watchings, troublesome Sleep, Frights, groundless Fears, and the deepest Melancholy, with direful Views and terrible Apprehensions; at other times, Fits, Flushing Heats, Reachings, Faintness, Lowness and Sinking of Spirits, Palpitation of the Heart, Startings, Tremblings, and Twitchings in the Limbs and other Parts, with many convulsive Disorders, sharp Pains, fix'd or wandering Pain and Weakness in the Back, and other, almost innumerable and grievous Symptoms, which miserably afflict vast Numbers of both Sexes.

All which Symptoms, in their sharpest Paroxysms, these so-much fam'd and most pleasant Drops, (which are Chymically prepar'd from the most valuable Specificks in the Mineral, Vegetable, and Animal Kingdoms, and exalted to the highest Degree of Perfection possible) instantly quell, and at the same time annihilate their real Cause, directly bringing the Stomach into right Order, creating a good Appetite, rectifying the Digestion, occasioning laudable Chyle, and, of course, a good Blood, Plenty of calm, free, and cheerful Spirits, a regular Circulation of all the Fluids, and Strength of Nerves, so that both Cause and Effects of Melancholy and Vapours, are thoroughly removed by them, almost on the Spot, as the many Thousands of both Sexes they have perfectly cured, evince.

Whoever takes them for 3 Days only, will be sensible they are absolutely to be depended upon for an effectual and lasting Cure, and certain it is, that no Medicine upon Earth can equal them; be careful therefore to have the right Drops, which are to be had only at Mrs. Holt's, at the Cross-Keys and Star in Cornhill, near Stocks-Market, at 3 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.

L O N D O N: Printed for T. COOPER, at the Globe in Pater-noster-Row.